STACK AUTOMATIC MULTI-FILE

Resource savings and real-time optimization for z/OS Tape Library

Technical Overview

GFS/Stack – Automatic Multi-File solves problems caused by low usage of magnetic tape capacity and eliminates resource waste in z/OS tape libraries.

GFS/Stack facilitates efficient occupation of any media capacity and can be used in installations of any size. It allows optimized unit use and improves overall processing performance for jobs that use magnetic tapes.

GFS/Stack enables multi-file and multi-volume facilities dynamically, in real-time and without any JCL changes while at the same time significantly reducing the number of tape mounts.

Goals

Maximize magnetic tape capacity usage and eliminate resource waste throughout the z/OS tape library environment

Increase actual tape unit availability and process more jobs in less time using the same number of units

Benefits

Optimized use of tape storage capacity

Immediate increase in number of available scratch tapes

Significant reduction of tape mounts

Decreased job processing elapsed times via less tape mount and positioning times

Robot use optimization, maximizing megabytes/silo capacity, preserving investments and increasing tape library resource lifespan

Tape library infrastructure cost reduction: tapes, labels, shelves, silos, vault size, cooling, physical space, volume transportation, staff, etc.

Increased production performance with more jobs processed within the batch windows

Main Functions

Automatic multi-file/multi-volume

Real-time file allocation process

Does not change volumes and does not become the volume owner

No JCL changes required

No media, file type or production routine restrictions

Allows the optimization of existing volumes

Does not use buffers, traces or databases

No pre or post processing procedures required, or any other additional process in production
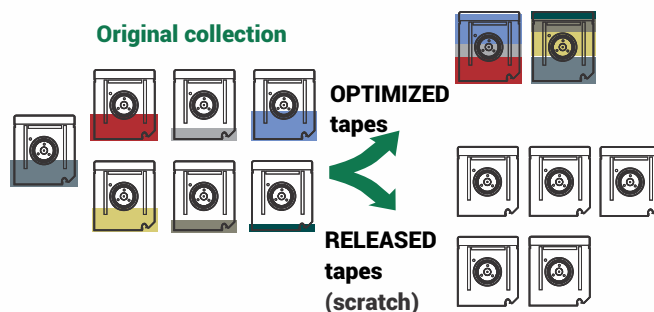
Dynamic parameter configuration

Online functions for management and statistics

Compatible with any tape library manager

Fully integrated to z/OS

Requires minimal planning and can be easily deployed

Resource Optimization and Release
(Real Time)

Original collection — OPTIMIZED tapes — RELEASED tapes (scratch)

Installation and Activation

GFS/Stack has a dynamic installation process which does not require an IPL.

The installation can be carried out partially and gradually and does not require JCL changes or any other changes in the production routines.

The activation is a simple process and does not require additional hardware or software.

GFS/Stack uniquely performs real-time and automatic file stacking, eliminating the need for post-processing

GFS SOFTWARE

Highlights

GFS/Stack Retain
The Retain Function keeps a tape mounted after being used, allowing efficient unit use. This function allows writing multiple files within the same job or among distinct jobs with a single tape mount.

GFS/Stack Quick Search
The Quick Search function positions the volumes so that they can be quickly written to, saving precious tape positioning and mount times during write operations. Quick Search allows indexed fast forward, which is much faster than the sequential reading method used by z/OS.

GFS/Stack Sysplex
The Sysplex option allows sharing volumes among all partitions of a Sysplex structure, maximizing volume utilization and tape unit sharing.
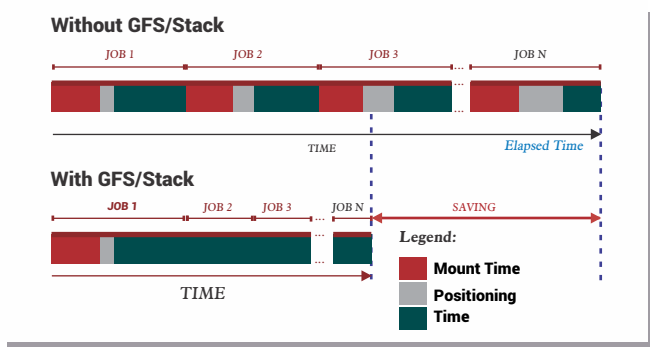
GFS/Stack Post Processor
In addition to real-time functions, GFS/Stack allows the post processing stacking of existing volumes, where underused volumes that are already written can be optimally rewritten in new volumes. This function is also ideal for data migration between distinct technologies.

Web Interface
Complete emulation of the mainframe environment on any web browser, with full accessibility to the physical and virtual library, via Internet connection.

More tape unit availability

Competitive Advantages

Minimal CPU consumption
GFS/Stack has a very low CPU consumption rate, as it does not interfere with the writing process.

Efficiency
GFS/Stack is the only solution that optimizes tapes in real-time during writing and does not require additional post processing.

Portability
GFS/Stack does not become the owner of the files, as they are written in IBM Standard Label format.

Safety
All data remains safe and available in the tapes, even in the event of hardware or software failures.

No impact on the Operating Environment
GFS/Stack does not require changes to the production environment and processes to operate.

Environmental Characteristics

IBM/390, z/OS, z/Series, z9, z10

JES2/JES3, DFSMS, DFP

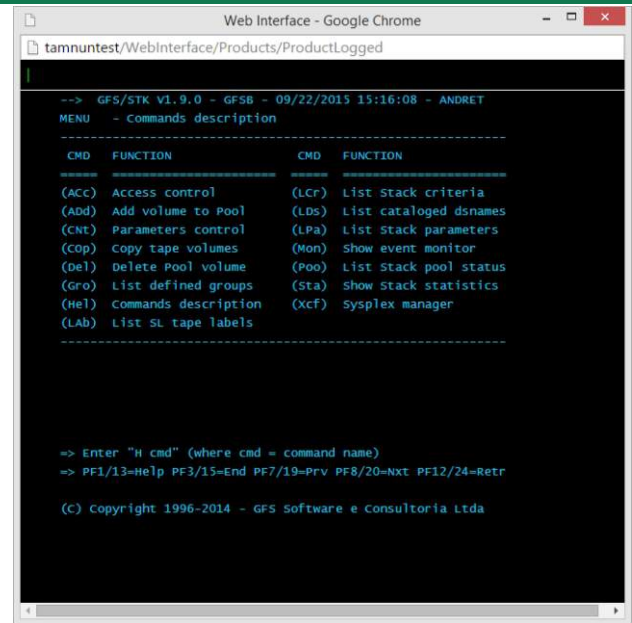Interface: TSO/ISPF, ROSCOE, VTAM, COMPLETE, Console, RACF, TOP-SECRET, GFS/Web

DFSMShsm, ADSM/TSM, TCP/IP and SMP/E

Hardware: 3420, 3480, 3490, 3590, 9840, Magstar, Redwood, Timberline or any unit supported by z/OS

Installation via SMP/E

Compatible with any TMS, totally integrated into GFS/AFM

GFS Web/Interface uniquely emulates Stack's z/OS functions allowing real-time, web-based accessibility

Excellence in Support

The GFS technical team counts on dedicated, qualified and experienced professionals who are not only experts on the solutions, but on the environment and customer needs.

With a complete mainframe infrastructure dedicated exclusively to development and support, GFS Software offers exceptional 24 x 7 customer service.

Ongoing Technical Updating

GFS Software is an active member of IBM's Partner World for Developers program and holds a modern software and hardware infrastructure to develop applications for the z/OS platform.

GFS Software uses these resources to continually enhance our solutions and keep products current with the most recent technological advancements.